

COUNCIL ON POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION STORY IDEA FOR MEDIA

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Kentucky School for the Deaf

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WHO: Students from the Kentucky School for the Deaf, Ernest C. Drury School for the Deaf (Canada), Kansas School for the Deaf, Ohio School for the Deaf, Minnesota North Star Academy, and Montana School for the Deaf and Blind.

WHAT: First MegaDEAFConference 2009, a two-hour interactive videoconference designed to unite deaf schools from across the country and to provide opportunities for collaborations between deaf students. A total of 39 sites will participate via interactive video conferencing.

View participants at the following link:

<http://www.ksd.kyschools.us/megadeafconference/registered.htm>

WHEN: Wednesday, March 25, 2009, at 11:30 a.m. EDT

WHERE: Kentucky School for the Deaf, 303 S. 2nd Street, Danville, KY 40423

To connect virtually, contact Deby Trueblood, director of technology, Kentucky School for the Deaf, 859-936-6724, or deby.trueblood@KSD.kyschools.us.

MORE

The conference will be hosted by students from Kentucky School for the Deaf serving as VJs (Video Jockeys). The conference will be signed in American Sign Language (ASL), but voice interpretation will be provided for participants who need it. In addition to the presenters listed above, participants will observe from locations in Alabama, California, Connecticut, Delaware, D.C., Florida, Kansas, Iowa, Maryland, Minnesota, Mississippi, Montana, New

Jersey, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, West Virginia, Gallaudet University, the College of New Jersey, Eastern Kentucky University, as well as international participating sites from Canada and the United Kingdom.

MegaDEAFConference 2009 is the brainchild of Clyde Mohan, videoconferencing project manager for Kentucky School for the Deaf (KSD), a 32-year teaching veteran and a graduate of McDaniel College, Gallaudet University. Contact him at clyde.mohan@KSD.kyschools.us

PARTNERS

The Council on Postsecondary Education is involved as the Internet2 contact. Internet2, the advanced network for research and education, is especially important to this event due to the qualities of speed and clarity and the reduction of latency which enables the students to use American Sign Language to communicate with the other deaf students and schools. The Kentucky Regional Optical Network, KyRON, is the provider of Internet2 services to the Kentucky education and research communities.

Kentucky School for the Deaf partners who have assisted in the planning for the conference include Dr. Susan A. Lancaster, Kentucky Internet2 applications coordinator; Kentucky School for the Deaf director of technology, Deby Trueblood; Steve Crisp and Mike Dunn from AT&T; Gail Cummins and Robert Cable from the (Kentucky) Commonwealth Office of Technology; and Tandberg Regional Grant Manager, Madeline Keller.